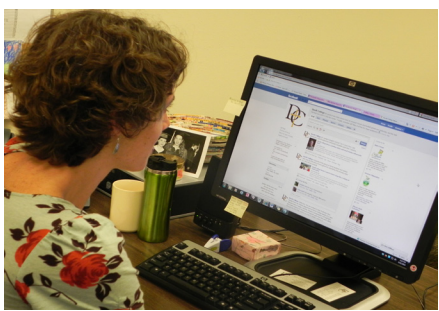




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Dordt College

30 September 2010

Issue 2

Practices done, plays created, uniforms planned: Powder puff players ready to compete



Rebecca Van Wijk blocks for Rindy De Nooy as their team practices in the Rec Center. They will be taking on another team of junior and senior women tonight at 7 p.m. behind the softball fields in the SAC-sponsored powder puff football event. *Photo by Kelly Cooke*

Brittany Haan
Staff Writer

A fierce game of football will be going down tonight at 7 p.m. behind the softball fields.

This isn't a normal game of football. This is powder puff football, and the women playing are both prepared and

pumped up.

The Student Activities Committee (SAC) is sponsoring the event.

"This is the first year we've ever tried this, so we're really excited. We hope to make this an annual event," Melissa Riezebos, president of SAC, said.

There will be two games,

one for freshman and sophomore women, and one for junior and senior women. The teams are coached by 15 men from the football team, and rumor has it that the men's soccer team might even get in on the action, with a pom pom routine - cheer outfits included!

Jenna Brouwer, a sprinter

on the track team, is one of 60 women are participating.

"I love to run, so hopefully they'll put me as running back," she said.

The teams have been working with their coaches, getting in practice and creating plays for the big game.

Kayla DeVries and Rachel Born are two women on an underclassmen team that practiced in the Rec Center on Tuesday night. The practice was set up on Monday through an e-mail from the team's coaches: Daniel Finley, Josh Nollmeyer, and Will McClain.

It was their first and last practice, and it lasted 45 minutes, but they're not worried.

"Basically, we all know what we're doing anyway," DeVries said.

The team has five plays, which are, of course, top secret. But the women did share that the plays are standard football plays: "swing," "sweep," and "bomb" are some of them.

"Pretty much we are cleaning, sweeping, and blowing stuff up," Born said.

The team does not have uniforms, but they plan to wear red.

"I do wish it had been planned better, and we had more notification so we could have time to make team shirts or practice more," DeVries said.

Joanna Hessels and Rebecca Van Wijk are part of an upper-classmen team that also made use of the Rec Center. They planned two practices, to give them an edge over the other team.

They also have been working on strategy; "gummy worm," "lizard," "rhino," "cheetah," and "funny business" are among some of their play names.

They are, however, still trying to come up with a name for their team.

"I'm really excited for the game," Hessels said. "I don't know anything about football, but I'm excited to play."

Van Wijk said that some of the team members made t-shirts, and they are all planning on wearing knee high socks and bandanas.

"I think our offense is good, and our defense is top notch," she said. "I feel good about our team; we have lots of energy."

The pulse of the First Mondays lecture series

Lance Kooiman
Staff Writer

The First Mondays lecture series is now a year old, and students – required to attend or not – appreciate what they've heard so far. They also look for changes to further improve the new program.

"I think that the First Monday speakers are good to hear," said Brett Leyendekker. "Most of the speakers are pretty intellectual, so you have to come willing and ready to think and apply the knowledge they give, which is good in a college setting."

Eric Grootenboer is a freshman, and has only had once

chance to experience the First Mondays lectures.

"I was impressed with what I saw," he said. "They give familiar messages that we have heard throughout our Christian education and church life, but their life experience and wisdom takes it to another level."

While First Mondays lectures are open for everyone, many of those in attendance are required to hear the lectures as a fulfillment of CORE or other class requirements.

Attendance, however, is still impressive to Bethany Schuttinga, Associate Provost.

"We have been pleased with attendance," Schuttinga said. "When we tap into what the

students want, attendance will continue to improve."

Grootenboer agrees, and offers one opinion on what students want.

"As long as the speakers try not to speak like they are teaching a class, I think the attendance will improve as well as the reputation of the series," said Grootenboer.

Another thing students are looking for is a different kind of speaker.

"I would like to see someone who isn't a theologian or lifelong Christian," Alex Urdike said. "I feel that the story of the fallen life, redemption, and life today would have a big impact on the message."



Dr. David Naugle *Photo contributed*

Oct. 4: Dr. David Naugle, head of the philosophy department at Dallas Baptist University. His morning lecture is "St. Augustine, Happiness, and the order of the Loves." His evening lecture will be "St. Augustine on Education."

Also this year:

Nov. 1: Erik Hoekstra, Dordt Provost
Dec. 6: Shane Claiborne
Feb. 7: Marilynne Robinson
March 7: Brian J. Walsh
Apr. 4: Andy Crouch

Dordt College Business Club, Carrie Foods work together to make 55th Avenue a success



Kim Hoekstra stands at the newly opened 55th Avenue Cafe. Photo by Kelly Cooke

Adrian Hielema
Staff Writer

It's been one week since 55th Avenue Cafe opened, and with a grand opening still to come, the place is bustling with activity. "Smoothies are definitely our best seller," said business professor Art Attema, who has been overseeing the project. "So far we've been trying to keep it really low-key; it's pretty busy as it is."

Kim Hoekstra, who spent all summer working on the project with Attema, agrees when it comes to keeping things simple. "Every Dordt College Busi-

ness Club member works at least two hours every week," said Hoekstra. "That's about 50 people that need to know how to operate everything, so the first week is pretty hectic."

Helping the Business Club in their new venture is Carrie Foods. Throughout the summer, Carrie Foods provided materials, storage, and distributor contacts to the fledgling coffee shop. "I'm excited, I think it's a great opportunity," said Jim Calkhoven, President of Carrie Foods. "I'm looking forward to helping students in a different avenue than just food service."

The goal was for 55th Avenue to fit in a different niche

than the one Carrie Foods occupies. "Carrie Foods is staffed by normal people, who have normal bedtimes," said Prof. Attema, "students, however, do not always have normal bedtimes, so 55th tries to cater to that aspect as well."

55th has tried to separate itself when it comes to the menu as well. Muffins have been added, and breakfast-style pizzas are rumored to be coming soon. "I think this is one of the best examples of several groups on campus working together to achieve a common dream," said Calkhoven, "and it's a fantastic learning experience as well."

Poetry by professionals

Members of the faculty share their work

Adam McDonald
Staff Writer

On Sunday, Sept. 26, some of the faculty - mostly English professors - presented their latest and most precious works of literature among peers and students in S101. 45 people attended the event, to listen and to share, including President Carl Zylstra.

"I thought it was great. It's a good chance for faculty to display varied experiences they have," Zylstra said. "There are gifts from all different angles. From essays to articles to poetry, it's a great way for students to interact with faculty in ways they normally don't."

Sophomore Kristin Janssen, an English/Language Arts Major, attended the event in hopes of seeing how the professors write in their spare time in order to hone her own writing skills. "I really enjoyed being able to hear professors that I have had in class and hear what they have written," said Janssen. "In the classroom, they share our work with the class and

critique it but we rarely have a chance to see their work."

Adjunct English professor Judy Bowman was among the featured writers at the reading. Bowman is a professional journalist. She shared a story she wrote titled "The Path to Dordt" showing the emotional stress and joys of her trials before being hired as an adjunct professor.

"I thought it was a nice variety," Zylstra said, citing Bowman's story as an example. "It's a great way to give a different angle on the inside life of how someone comes to Dordt College and becomes part of the faculty. I think students are used to thinking about how students get here, but you never stop and think 'How does faculty get here?'"

Bowman also shared a poem about her dog that she called a "work in progress."

"I'm not a creative writer but I enjoy trying to do that," she said. "It's difficult because I'm brand new and being a journalist is different from being a poet."

SAC movie night: "To Infinity And Beyond!"



Teresa De Wit and Allison Vellema won the college-age contest as Bo Peep and her sheep. Photo by Jordan Edens

Jordan Edens
Staff Writer

Woody, Buzz, and the rest of the beloved "Toy Story" gang were projected larger than life Friday night, Sept. 24, in the Rec Center during an exclusive showing of "Toy Story 3." This event was put on by the Student Activities Committee and enjoyed by "Toy Story" lovers of all ages.

To get into the spirit of the movie, a toy-themed costume contest was held with contestants ranging from Ken and his Barbies to a pint-sized Batman.

A \$50 prize was awarded to the costume contest winners in two categories: pre-college and college-age students.

The clear winner for the pre-college category was Claire Knauss in her life-size Lego costume. Little Bo Peep and her sheep—Teresa De Wit and Allison Vellema— stole the college-age contest in true "Toy Story" fashion.



Claire Knauss won the pre-college contest as a life-size Lego. Photo by Jordan Edens

Author speaks at Fruited Plain, in Dordt classes



Canadian poet John Terpstra came to Dordt for readings on Sept. 21 and 22. *Photo contributed*

Danielle Richards
Guest Writer

Muscular dystrophy, teenage pregnancy, and emigration were among Canadian poet John Terpstra’s topics of reading on Sept. 22 at the Fruited Plain Cafe. Around 30 people showed up to hear Terpstra read several poems and a section of his book “The Boys.”

“I was expecting something more upbeat, but it was interesting to hear about his family and the struggles they had been through,” said Eric Anderson, who attended the reading. Terpstra, a cabinetmaker as well as a poet, came to Sioux Center from Hamilton, Ontario, by request of English professor James Schaap. Schaap said he asked Terpstra to come after reading Terpstra’s book “The Boys.” While staying in Sioux Center, Terpstra spoke in various English classes on campus. He provided a selection of poems for students to read before his arrival. “His poems were interesting, and I felt that they were written from a theological background similar to the beliefs we have at Dordt,” Loy Griess said. Speaking at a Christian college was nothing new for him, he said. Other colleges such as Calvin College, Redeemer College, and Trinity Christian College have also invited Terpstra to their campuses.

One common question students asked Terpstra was about his decision to become a writer. He said he made his decision in the 10th grade and was influenced by The Beatles and John Steinbeck. “I knew there was no money in it whatsoever. I knew that right away,” Terpstra said in the Themes in Literature class on Tuesday, Sept. 21. Terpstra has written seven books of poetry and three non-fiction books. “The Boys,” Terpstra’s latest non-fiction book and finalist for the Charles Taylor Prize literary award, is available on the internet through Terpstra’s publisher Gaspereau Press. Apart from his daily wood-working, Terpstra is working on his newest book, “Skin Boat.” He says it contains stories of church go-ers and their persistence in going to church after difficulties in life. “I’m gonna put everything that I know in it,” he said.

Student Symposium Update

Student symposium is up and running! The first meeting was held Thursday, Sept. 16. The focus for Symposium this year is communication with the student body. So don’t be alarmed if you are confronted by a Symposium member searching for your opinion. Symposium is also hoping to get the opinion of students as a group by introducing town hall meetings. These meetings will take place when student feedback is wanted on a big-ticket issue. At the meeting, Symposium discussed a few specific topics about campus life. A couple of these topics were Dordt swim and free storage. Dordt swim is a reserved time on Thursday evenings for Dordt students to swim at the All Seasons Center. As of late, the program as a whole is being questioned. What do you think about Dordt swim? Do you love it, find it pointless, or have reasons for wanting it gone? Let Symposium members know. While discussing Dordt swim, Symposium found out that the summer staff at Dordt is not allowed to swim for free. Symposium would like to change this rule in the future. Free storage was also up for debate during this meeting, and many ideas were thrown around. Again, symposium wants your opinion. What innovative ideas do you have about making storage more efficient? If you have any questions about Symposium, or would like to give your opinion, feel free to talk to a member or stop by the Symposium office. Scheduled hours for the office are still pending. *Compiled by Steve Olson, Symposium’s Officer of the Press*

Third Mondays: they’re not the same as First Mondays

Rachel Mulder
Staff Writer

Lost? In need of a major? Dordt College can help. That’s the idea behind Third Mondays. Every third Monday of the month, Dordt’s academic departments host open houses during the community block to help students discover their interests and choose a major. At least, that’s the idea. “I didn’t [go]. I went to the first department meeting, [but] I’m pretty sure of my major,” Marisa Van Bommel said. Van Bommel isn’t alone. Other upperclassmen and those who have already chosen a major don’t participate in the Third Mondays meetings. “I didn’t [attend] because I already have a major,” Jake Teunissen said. Still, the meetings do have a purpose. All students are encouraged to attend, especially underclassmen. A majority of the open houses are group advising meetings which are help-

ful for students of all grades. “I’m undeclared, so it’s helpful to go to these department meetings to learn more information about different career possibilities,” said Amy Van Voorst. “This last Monday helped me narrow it down.” A few of the open house sessions are intended to help students decide on a major and consider their calling. Chris DeJong, Director of Career Services and Calling, is available to help students understand what that is, but he hopes that the CORE 100 experience will help students work through their calling. Attendance is also expected to increase as the year goes on. In January and February, DeJong and Registrar Jim Bos expect “significant numbers of upperclassmen” because those months discuss service-learning and other off-campus opportunities. The next third Monday open house will be held Oct. 18. DeJong reminds students to “take advantage of these opportunities.”

Dordt announces \$50 million campaign



Dordt College employees take part in an on-campus celebration of Vision 2020. Full-time employees and retirees had an unprecedented 100 percent participation in giving to the campaign. *Photo contributed*

Dordt College will publicly announce its \$50 million comprehensive campaign with a festive Vision 2020 Campaign kickoff on Saturday, Sept. 25. The event will celebrate alumni and students across North America who are making a difference in their communities. The lively program includes video of engaging interviews with notable alumni, including Brent Assink, Executive Director of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, and Sandy Faber Johnson, Director of Denominational Ministries for the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The Dordt College Concert Choir will perform, and speakers will include Dordt Col-

lege President Carl E. Zylstra, Board of Trustees Chair Randy Kroll, students, faculty, and key volunteers. The program will demonstrate how the Vision 2020 campaign is enabling Dordt College to grow in excellence, impact, and outreach. Vision 2020 is a comprehensive \$50 million fundraising campaign that is providing scholarship funds, academic support, facilities upgrades, and operational and endowment support. The recently completed employee/retiree portion of the campaign received 100 percent participation from full time employees, raising more than \$1.5 million from those who know Dordt most intimately.

“We’re excited to see the commitment and dedication of Dordt College faculty, staff, and retirees to building this college for the future service of coming generations of students,” said Zylstra. Anyone who has supported Dordt College and all who appreciate the impact of a Dordt education on the lives of generations of students and communities around the world are invited to attend the inspiring and informative program. The event will begin at 7 p.m. in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. Afterward, desserts will be served in the Campus Center. (Submitted by Sonya Jongsma Knauss)

Features

Knauss revamps Dordt public relations: Making the most of social media

Kelly Zatlin
Staff Writer

Sonya Jongsma Knauss sits at her desk, her eyes and fingers glued to her iPhone. Her computer screen is lit up, as always. “Come on in, just give me a second,” she says as she sends a last minute text message.

Knauss, the new Director of Marketing and Public Relations, is bringing PR at Dordt to a whole new level, introducing more ways to advertise what Dordt is doing on and off campus.

Knauss is a strong proponent of using social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and Youtube to promote campus activities, events, and recent news.

“Social media is a way to have a direct conversation with people without going through a mediating media organization,” said Knauss. “You never know how they will interpret what you are trying to say or if they will even run it.”

Though Dordt College has had both Twitter and Facebook accounts in the past, Knauss is planning on taking advantage of these sites by using them to their full potential.

“Why pay a bunch of money for an organization to advertise about the college, when you can do it for free over Facebook or Twitter?” said Knauss. “People will see exactly what we want them to see about the college.”

The size of Dordt’s twitter



Sonya Jongsma Knauss is Dordt’s new Director of Marketing and Public Relations. Coming from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Knauss knows the importance of social media. *Photo by Rachel Mulder*

account audience has doubled since the beginning of the 2010 fall semester. More than 200 people now follow “@dordt-college” to get short and quick updates about things happening around campus.

Because Dordt’s twitter audience is still growing, Knauss is more dependent on using Dordt’s Facebook account to get messages across to the public.

“There are not too many students and faculty using Twitter, but Dordt’s Facebook account has around 2,200 fans including parents, faculty, and students,” she said.

Coming from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Knauss knows the importance of using every means possible to reach an audience.

“Why wouldn’t you want to

use every channel available to you to get a message across?” asked Knauss.

Don’t think, though, that all Knauss does is hang out on Facebook and Twitter all day. She has a handful of other duties to get accomplished on a day-to-day basis.

Knauss is responsible for Dordt’s press releases, updating and copy-editing the website, writing pamphlets and brochures, and purchasing advertisements.

She is excited to use her skills to help Dordt expand and grow as a college.

“It’s really nice to be a part of an organization where people are united in the most important ways with common purpose and concerns,” said Knauss. “Never take that for granted.”

A Millennial’s media: Out with the old, in with the new

Brittany Haan
Staff Writer

Ever heard of the term “Millenials”? Well, it’s you, my friend, if you’re between the ages of 15 and 34. Also referred to as “Generation Y,” we are digital natives, born, raised, and living our whole lives with some sort of digital technology present and accessible.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Millennials spend almost 25 hours per week surfing the web, tweeting, facebooking, you-tubing, etc. These 25 hours are incredibly important to us. We have walls to write on, status updates about the corn dog we just ate, and countless views of Antoine Dodson or David after dentist. We’re constantly updated on other people’s lives, and we’re updating them on ours.

The Internet has changed the way all medias work. TV, radio, and newspapers are converging into one, to be accessed via Internet. Old and new media intertwine, and a shift in how we interact socially has changed dramatically. Not only can you watch your favorite sitcom episode online, but you can chat with other viewers while doing so. The Wii isn’t just a game console, but also a web browser and social networking tool. Phones converge digital cameras, voice recording, and mp3 players, as well as provid-

ing access to video, Internet, Twitter updates, “check ins” to Foursquare, and Facebook. The possibilities are endless.

With the shift in technology there has also been a shift in communication. Face-to-face communication and talking on the phone has been replaced with texting and Facebook messages. I wouldn’t say communication has gotten worse— it’s just changed. Through Facebook and Twitter we’ve connected with hundreds more people than we would have without it. Video chat with friends and family hundreds of miles away, and reconnect with friends from the past. Create your own media through blog posts, videos and music, and share them with huge audiences. Knowing what is going on around you has also become a lot easier. Send a group invite to a birthday party, and see what’s happening on campus through the Dordt fan page.

Baby boomers and Generation X-ers are slightly hesitant about the emergence of social networking and use of the Internet. Many have misconceptions of social networking sites, mainly because those using them are abusing them.

Be responsible online, and be aware of what you’re doing. Privacy is just an illusion, and someone on the other end knows exactly what you’re looking at. Internet content is extreme and captivating, but very uncontrolled.

Facebook or Twitter?

Compiled by staff writer Kelly Zatlin



Stephanie Krych

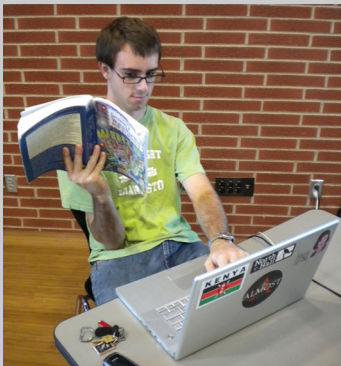
Facebook: “I use it to keep in touch with friends from home and overseas.”

Twitter: “I think it is the stupidest thing ever. Who cares what you’re doing at all times unless you are famous. Your friends should know what’s going on with your life without you having to put it on the Internet.”

Facebook: “I definitely prefer Twitter over Facebook. You can’t ‘creep’ on Twitter and it’s more informative than Facebook. There is something redeeming about it. Tweets are not status updates. I often re-post quotes I have seen or articles I read.”

Twitter: “I mainly have Twitter to get instant updates from friends. I also follow a baseball insider as well as some athletes just to keep up with what’s going on and get information about sports before anyone else does. I probably tweet about 10-15 times a day and have around 64 followers.”

Morgan Halpert



Andrew Hornor

Facebook: “I use it to keep in touch with people I haven’t seen in years, set up times to meet with people, keep up with things on campus, and of course, procrastinate.”

Twitter: “I only joined because my grandparents told me to and to keep them happy. I usually say things on twitter that I wouldn’t necessarily write on Facebook. Like sometimes I will comment on something I saw on Facebook, on Twitter. I only have 40 followers. “

Facebook: “I use Facebook so I can keep up with people I don’t get to see. I’ve moved a lot so I have friends all over that I want to stay in touch with.”

Twitter: “I’ve thought about getting a Twitter for a while, but I don’t see how it is any better than Facebook. You can’t upload a lot of pictures and you can’t see people’s relationship statuses.”

Katrina Ryder



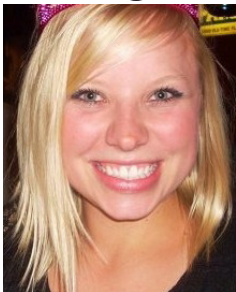
Michelle Kistler

Facebook: “I am an avid Facebook user. All the people that I want to get a hold of are on Facebook. I guess I have not made the merge yet from Facebook to Twitter.”

Twitter: “The only reason I have a Twitter is because a friend asked me to sign up so she could ‘follow’ me. I only go on it about once every six months.”

Opinion

Forming Defenders: Schooled by a foreigner



Chelsey Munneke
Columnist

“Oh, you from America? We love Obama too! High five!”

This is a variation of the common phrases I heard in Europe during my study abroad semester in the Netherlands.

Once people found out I was American, all they wanted to do was talk about Obama, health care, and the war in Iraq.

I usually left the high five hanging, and instead gave a confused rebuttal of why I didn’t want to necessarily be identified as an “Obamerican.”

Shocked at how much they knew about my country, I usually left the conversation embarrassed because a European knew more about America than I did.

They asked so many questions I couldn’t answer and told me things about my homeland that were news to me.

“How do you not know?” they questioned me, while I tried to fake my way through political and economic conversations.

How did I not know? Why didn’t I care?

As a result of this frustration, I decided to take an International Relations class this semester to become a more informed American.

I’m finally starting to see the importance of understanding my own country and the current events that are shaping our ever-changing world.

Raised a strong Republican, I decided it was time to take my political biases and find the facts to back them up.

As citizens, it is our responsibility to know what is going on around us.

So I challenge you: this morning instead of flicking on MTV or CMT while you get ready for class, try FOX News or CNN.

That way, this year when you go to the polls, you can competently vote on your own and also be prepared to have an educated conversation with someone about this place you call home.

The anti-moderate: Forgotten in the family, pt. 2

The mentally-challenged are society’s worst deviants.

When they commit a crime, responsibility is deferred to someone else (a “guardian”), or their crime is considered a medical matter rather than a legal one. They are not allowed to plead guilty, effectively placing them outside the rule of law – not as the rich are outside it, by living above it, but because they live below it.

But the mentally challenged don’t even have to commit a crime to be considered deviant. Inevitably, because their concerns often seem so at odds with those of the majority, the rest of us take it upon ourselves to “take care of them,” which actually means limiting their potential for disrupting us.

Socially, three paradigms govern our response to their deviance.

Sometimes we isolate them, a modern substitution for the ancient practice of killing them.

Sometimes we “integrate” them, forcing them through school grade by grade with their “peers.” In this case they invariably become the butt of jokes, a modern day version of the jester. When they walk

to receive their diploma everyone claps, everyone cries – as if it meant anything. It only means we have successfully pretended they aren’t different.



Robert Minto
Columnist

ent.

Sometimes we herd them, establishing “separate” cultures, group homes, and special needs classes. We smile at how they “get along,” quietly misinterpreting their passive, mutual unconnection as friendship.

We haven’t progressed far beyond the ideas of Thomas More. He wrote, in his book *Utopia*, that the people who were most amused by the mentally challenged should take care of them – otherwise,

what were they good for?

This attitude that the problem of the mentally handicapped is one of resource deployment – what are they good for? – should be a sign for Christians that this is the place for a fundamentally life-valuing and counter-cultural stand. People aren’t resources. Even if they exhibit no value for the state or any other institution, for the economies in which humans are capital, they matter, and they maintain the work of human responsibility.

Yet while one of our favorite responses to political utopianism is “that should be the church’s job” (whether the issue is providing for the sick, the orphan, the widow, or addressing the problem of the meaning of the life of a mentally handicapped person), my overwhelming experience has been that only the secular state cares enough to do anything. And the state’s response, of course, follows the three paradigms I described above.

When will Christians, especially Reformed Christians who claim to care about the order of the present world, come to grips with the social problem of mental handicap?



my *feminist*
LABEL

Model Behavior

By Ally Karsyn
Columnist

Today’s American woman has taken on a new look. The “MRS. degree” is a thing of the past, and the going trend is women who are SAS—successful, attractive singles.

With women now earning nearly 60 percent of all bachelor’s degrees, we can essentially make a living for ourselves, minus a man. And that’s exactly what more women are doing. They’re choosing the single life in favor of their careers.

In the July/August issue of *Atlantic* magazine, Hanna Rosin’s cover story “The End of Men” all but poses the question—who needs ‘em anyways?

Artificial baby-making was a hot topic on the big screen this year with “The Back-Up Plan,” “The Switch” and “The Kids Are All Right”. The three rom-com films made it perfectly clear that women don’t need to marry a man to have a baby.

But not all women are baby-crazed time bombs waiting for their biological clocks to explode. Some women simply don’t want children. They’re the ones who can truly get by sans men.

Nowadays, a woman can have children without getting married and get married without having children.

Women are the social trend-setters of our time, leading the way through a social landscape never seen before—often making rules up as we go.

We don’t have to look to men for our model of success anymore. At the going rate, men might start looking to women. The recession has reportedly hit men where it hurts, putting many out of a job. We’ve got a “mancession” on our hands.

If a man wants to make it in the “marriage market” and beyond, he better have something more to offer to women and society than a steady income. The SAS woman doesn’t have to rely on him for social status or financial stability.

She can do that herself.

Her new look requires a new kind of man. Masculinity needs a makeover.

Too much, too little: Worthwhile Words

Not long ago, there was a poet on campus.

Did any of you catch his poetry reading at the Fruited Plain?

I can already hear the snorting. “A poetry reading?”

After all, the Fruited Plain attracts the artsy-fartsy types—and that ain’t you, not by a long shot.

Fine by me. Really, it is. I love poetry, but I also know how stereotypes can turn people off.

Snobbish artsy folks, with their thick-rimmed glasses and chai tea are probably the images running through your mind.

But let’s try and get past all this “image” nonsense for a second.

My younger brother is a complete jock. He alternates sweatpants with Hollister jeans, and I don’t think he knows what a latte is.

But he has poetry tattooed all over his ribs.

That’s right. In the podunk town of Hawarden, a grungy

rocker inked poetry onto my little bro’s skin.

It’s his favorite bible verse: Jeremiah 29: 11—“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give



Kenny Gradert
Columnist

you hope and a future.”

An easy definition for “poetry” is simply this: to say the truth beautifully. God didn’t need to use all those words to

get His point across in Jeremiah 29. He could have summarized. He could have just said, “I’ll take care of you.”

But that doesn’t seem worth gritting your teeth for two hours straight to get it stabbed onto your ribs permanently, now does it?

Sure, that sentence would still be true, in a certain sad sense—but man, is it ugly. Incomplete. Weak.

I’m not saying that you have to go to poetry readings. I just hope you can see that poetry isn’t just for the chai-chuggers.

Poetry is earthy stuff. It’s for stabbing onto ribs, spraying onto walls, rapping into mikes.

It might be saving a soldier’s soul as we speak, as he nervously mutters a beautiful bit of the Bible on a dusty Iraqi battlefield.

Words lose their strength as they lose their beauty.

And don’t we all want words worth gritting our teeth for?

Guest columnist:

The plague of athletics



Kelly Smies
Guest Writer

Athletics are a plague; contagious, quickly spreading, indiscriminate, showing no mercy.

The plague is a silent killer, it shows no obvious symptoms, but eats away at families across the nation.

This may seem ironic coming from the pen of a collegiate athlete currently writing this from the stiff seat of the coach bus traveling ten hours on a bus in order to get on the field and run around for 90 minutes.

Ironic, yes but I'll keep writing anyway.

I live in Oostburg, Wisconsin. Oostburg eats, sleeps, and breathes basketball.

Their dedication is displayed proudly in the case holding six golden balls representing six state championships.

In Oostburg, basketball hoops are like mailboxes. Every house has one.

There is no off-season. Sixth graders are placed on select teams and travel statewide to compete.

Kids as young as 2nd grade trade in their Saturday cartoons for 6 a.m. basketball camp.

Athletes who succeed become instant celebrities, receiving profiles in the local newspaper.

For Oostburg the plague is

basketball- but in other towns it attacks as football, volleyball, soccer, hockey, or any other organized sport.

Society approves athletics because they build character, encourage teamwork, form friendships, and improve confidence. Boys and girls learn sportsmanship, self-discipline, and time-management.

Local newspapers create the perfect environment where the plague festers and grows.

There are multiple pages devoted to reporting the statistics and scores of the previous night's games.

Full color action shots plaster the front of the section, while other articles cover the favorite classes, movies, and foods of the player of the week.

What about music or theatre? No one ever sees the tuba player's profile or the actor of the week. Rarely do we see these performances advertised or celebrated in the same way as the athletic events.

My own family undeniably suffered from the plague.

Once upon a time we all sat around the table, ate together, talked together, and laughed together.

By the time I reached middle school, dinner- if home-made- was in the car while Mom drove from my basketball practice to my sister's basketball game while Dad was watching my brother's game.

The plague stole away our family dinners.

It's true that athletics have their benefits. However, problems surface when our life activities scale is heavily weighted towards sports.

Ask an Athlete

Kaitlin Horvat
Staff Writer

Name: Michelle Steiger

Sport: Cross Country

Class: Junior

Q: How long have you been in cross country?
A: Since 7th grade.

Q: What is your favorite thing about cross country?
A: The team. I really enjoy getting to know everybody, bonding and having fun.

Q: What would you say are the team's strengths this year?
A: We are really good at supporting each other and encouraging each other. We work hard, which helps in the races. We tend to have a positive attitude a lot.

Q: You recently received a GPAC award. Can you tell me more about that?
A: I was Runner of the Week for winning the race in Sioux Falls. I was nominated for national runner of the week.

Q: How much time a week does cross country usually take?
A: 25-30 hours.

Q: Has it been hard to manage cross country and school?
A: At times, when school gets really busy, especially in the peak of the season. It gets really stressful but it works out.



Steiger finishes her most recent race -- a 6k at the Roy Griak meet in Minneapolis, Minn. on Saturday, Sept. 25. She took 31st place out of nearly 300 Division II and NAIA runners, with a time of 23:42. Photo contributed

Q: Do you have a favorite memory?
A: Going home for nationals last year. It was in [Washington], so a lot of my family got to come and watch. I got to stay home for Thanksgiving because it was right after that.

Q: Do you have a routine that gets you ready for meets?
A: I do the same warm-up routine, and the night before the meet I call my dad and talk to him.

Q: Do you have anything else you would like to share that you love about cross country?
A: After every race, I offer everyone on the team a fruit snack, so they all make fun of me for that.

Hockey team does construction on its new locker room



The hockey team assembled their own lockers so their locker room could be ready when the team took the ice for the first time this year. Photo by Kelly Cooke

Ashlee Stallinga
Head Editor

It's difficult for a team to bond if that team isn't even together.

This was one problem the hockey team faced when they split up into two different locker rooms at the All Seasons Center.

"With all the youth teams and others using the rink, it was just too crowded in there," said coach Bill Elgersma. "Our team didn't fit in one locker room."

So the Blades decided they needed a change in the way they changed.

Since the All Seasons Center is a joint-owned facility, the team needed permission from Dordt, Sioux Center High School, and the city of Sioux Center to build another locker room.

Elgersma went to a meeting with representatives from all three and obtained permission to build.

However, the contractor they found couldn't get the work done until after Thanksgiving break, and the hockey season starts in September.

"We were on the ice by Monday, Sept. 20," Elgersma said.

So the team found another

contractor with a few free days to put up the wall for the locker room -- but all the painting, as well as the locker construction and installment, was left to be done.

The team decided to do that part themselves.

It took them two days to paint, and two days to install the lockers.

They finished the project on Saturday, Sept. 18.

"About half the team was involved," Elgersma said. "They still have to put in the power vent for odor, but it's basically complete."

Comic Mishaps by Meghan Aardsma



Versus

Dave De Wit
Columnist

Calvinist Limericks by Robert Minto

Part. II: Being a simple narrative, in light verse, about the origin of the most famous theological slogan involving American measurements.

Well, Kuyper, he needed a phrase for
How his wife, his cat, and his razor
Were all under God –
All the ground that he trod –
For the Free University’s blazer.

So he thought, and he read, and he wondered
As he wrote, and re-wrote, as he blundered
Toward words to describe
A cliché he’d prescribe
To his students and profs and their kindred.

Now, you’d think he’d use metric, surely,
But he finished his editing early:
There’s not a square inch
That won’t do in a pinch
When you’re faced with a deadline on Monday.

Hollywood VS. History Round 2
LADY GAGA vs. HELEN KELLER

Fame
GAGA: She has over 51 million singles sold worldwide. That’s a lot more singles than she used to get at the strip club.
KELLER: In 2003, Keller appeared on the back of the Alabama state quarter. Not that she can see it...since she’s been dead since 1968.
Advantage: GAGA

Brains
GAGA: Everybody knows she wore a dress made out of meat to the Video Music Awards, but what few know is that she grilled and ate the silk dress she was supposed to wear.
KELLER: Despite being deaf and blind, Keller graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Gaga didn’t finish college, probably because she saw and listened too much.
Advantage: KELLER

Strengths
GAGA: Her strength is her strength. Forbes magazine listed Gaga as #4 on its “100 Most Powerful Celebrities in the World” list. That’s even stronger than Kobe Bryant! AND HE PLAYS BASKETBALL!
KELLER: Thanks to sensory deprivation, she’s got an incredible sense of smell. When you talk to her, she can actually smell what you’re saying.
Advantage: KELLER

Weaknesses
GAGA: Not being super crazy and weird.
KELLER: Hearing and vision.
Advatnage: KELLER

Sex Appeal
GAGA: People only find Gaga attractive because of her great personality.
KELLER: Keller wasn’t much of a looker in any sense of the word.
Advantage: GAGA

KELLER WINS 3-2



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